REMARKS

Claims 1-12, 14-30 and 47-49, of which claims 1 and 16 are independent, are pending in

the present patent application. In the Office Action mailed April 8, 2004, the Examiner (i)

rejected claims 1-12 and 14-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112; and (ii) rejected claims 1-3, 16, 18, 47

and 49 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting.

As set forth, Applicants have cancelled claims 31-46, and amended claims 1 and 6-7. No

new matter has been added. Furthermore, after careful review of the cited references, Applicants

respectively request reconsideration in view of the following remarks.

I. <u>35 U.S.C.</u> § 112 Rejection

The Examiner rejected claims 1-12 and 14-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph,

as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter

which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 6-7. As such,

this rejection is moot.

II. <u>Double Patenting Rejection</u>

Claims 1-3, 16, 18, 47 and 49 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of

obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 7, and 11-15 of U.S.

Patent No. 6,234,378 (Ford). Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer in compliance

with 37 C.F.R. 1.321(c) to overcome this rejection.

III. Summary

Applicants respectfully submit that, in view of the remarks above, the present application,

including claims 1-12, 14-30 and 47-49, is now in condition for allowance and solicit action to

that end.

8

If there are any additional matters that may be resolved through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at (312)-913-0001.

Respectfully submitted,

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff

Date: May 25, 2004

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